

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05712 271323Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 /036 W
-----271359Z 011733 /53
R 271140Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6724
INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, UR
SUBJECT: ANOTHER FIRE IN HOTEL ROSSIYA

1. AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN REPORTS THAT ON EVENING OF APRIL 24 A FIRE BROKE OUT IN EAST WING OF HOTEL ROSSIYA (WING FACING MOSCOW RIVER). BLAZE WAS APPARENTLY CONCENTRATED ON 5TH FLOOR IN SECTION OF EAST WING FACING INSIDE COURTYARD OF HOTEL. BUSINESSMAN AND FAMILY WERE ALERTED TO FIRE WHEN THEY ENCOUNTERED HEAVY SMOKE IN 4TH FLOOR AND CONSIDERABLE COMMOTION IN HALLWAY NEAR THEIR ROOM WHEN RETURNING FROM DINNER. OFFICIALS OF HOTEL EVACUATED BUSINESSMAN AND NUMEROUS OTHER GUESTS FROM AFFECTED AREA FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR BETWEEN 800 - 9:00 P.M. FIRE TRUCKS, WHICH ARRIVED QUICKLY AND SILENTLY AT SCENE, BROUGHT FIRE SWIFTLY UNDER CONTROL AND AT LEAST MOST OF EVACUATED GUESTS WERE ABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR ROOM SUNDAY NIGHT.

2. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION AT THIS TIME AS TO EXTENT OF POSSIBLE CASUALTIES OR PROPERTY DAMAGE. TO BEST OF EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE BUSINESSMAN AND FAMILY WERE ONLY AMERICAN CITIZENS AFFECTED BY BLAZE.

3. THIS FIRE COMING ONLY TWO MONTHS AFTER CATASTROPHIC BLAZE
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AT ROSSIYA IN FEBRUARY REPORTEDLY HAD ROSSIYA HOTEL AUTHORITIES EXTREMELY ON EDGE. OFFICIALS AT HOTEL FIRST TRIED TO DENY TO BUSINESSMAN THAT THERE HAD BEEN ANY FIRE AT ALL BUT FINALLY ADMITTED TO HIM THAT THERE HAD BEEN "SMALL INCIDENT" WHEN CONFRONTED WITH ARRIVAL OF FIREMEN, FIRE ENGINES AND THE LINGERING SMELL OF SMOKE.

4. ON A RELATED NOTE, COMATT RECENTLY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW
INNER COURTYARD OF ROSSIYA FROM WINDOW OF ROOM IN SOUTH WING AND
WITNESSED TWO LARGE STAIR-TYPE FIRE ESCAPES BEING HASTILY ERECTED
ON NORTH WING (FACING THE COURTYARD). SIMILAR ACTIVITY WAS NOT
THEN IN PROGRESS ON ANY OF THE OTHER WINGS, NOR, OF COURSE,
WERE THERE ANY FIRE ESCAPES.
TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW05712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770147-0042
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770414/aaaaalwn.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANOTHER FIRE IN HOTEL ROSSIYA
TAGS: CGEN, UR
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